

Mike DeWine, Governor Randy Gardner, Chancellor

Memorandum

To: Chief Academic Officers and Provosts

From: Dr. Paula Compton, Associate Vice Chancellor, Ohio Articulation and Transfer Network

Date: April 9, 2021

Subject: New VA Educational Opportunity for Colleges and Universities

Dear Provosts and Chief Academic Officers:

Please see the following message from Jared Shank, Senior Director of Military and Apprenticeship Initiatives and Special Projects:

We wanted to make everyone aware of a new program the Dept. of Veteran Affairs has created. We (ODHE) are not involved in this process in any way, but we wanted you all to be aware of this opportunity.

The Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance Program (VRRAP), was enacted on March 11, 2021, and was effective immediately. VRRAP was part of the American Rescue Plan, a \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus package, with aid targeted to assist individuals and businesses recover from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Eligible Veterans participating in VRRAP receive up to 12 months of tuition and fees and a monthly housing allowance based on Post-9/11 GI Bill rates. Covered education programs must provide training for high-demand occupations, which are determined by the Commissioner of Labor Statistics. GI Bill approved programs of education and VET TEC approved training are eligible (bachelor's and graduate degree programs are excluded).

VA has 17,250 training spots open for eligible Veterans. See the <u>VRRAP homepage</u> for more information.

Institutions who would like to participate in this program must sign a participation agreement, which can be found at https://benefits.va.gov/GIBILL/docs/VRRAP ParticipationAgreement.pdf

Webpage for VRRAP information – https://benefits.va.gov/gibill/vrrap.asp
Webpage for Educational Institutions - https://benefits.va.gov/gibill/vrrap educational institutions.asp

Jared W. Shank

Senior Director of Military and Apprenticeship Initiatives and Special Projects
Ohio Articulation & Transfer Network
Ohio Department of Higher Education
25 South Front Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 466-5812
Jshank@highered.ohio.qov

http://www.OhioHigherEd.org

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